

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 00515 150450Z  
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08  
USIA-06 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03 IGA-02 SP-02 /060 W  
-----150719Z 033552 /14

R 150425Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7889  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY PARISHQUWQR  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMCONSUL UDORN  
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0515

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAID FAO UNDP LA EARG  
SUBJECT: FAO TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM IN LPDR

REFS: A) '76 VIENTIANE 1800, B) STATE 034398

1. FAO EXPERT AND UNDP OFFICER IN VIENTIANE PROVIDED DIFFERING  
VIEWS ABOUT THE ADVISABILITY OF TCP ASSISTANCE TO THE LPDR.

2. WITH A JAUNTY "LET'S GIVE IT A TRY" ATTITUDE, FAO EXPERT  
TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE LPDR WILL RECEIVE \$600,000 OF TCP FUNDS  
IN 1977 FOR THREE SHORT-TERM PROJECTS. VEGETABLE SEEDS PRO-  
VIDED FOR THE FIRST PROJECT WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO FARMERS  
IN NORTHERN LAOS WHOSE CROPS WERE RAVAGED BY INSECTS DURING  
THE 1976 GROWING SEASON, AS REPORTED REF A. IN A SECOND  
PROJECT, TCP FUNDS WILL FINANCE A FAO VETERINARIAN  
TO TRAIN LAO IN BASIC VETERINARY PRACTICES FOR FOUR TO  
SIX MONTHS. IN THE THIRD PROJECT, ANOTHER FAO EXPERT  
WILL CONDUCT A SIMILAR TRAINING SESSION IN USE OF ARGRI-  
CULTURAL MACHINES. FAO EXPERT SAID THAT OVERHEAD COSTS  
FOR THE PROJECTS WOULD BE PAID BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRI-  
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CULTURE AND HE OPTIMISTICALLY FORESAW NO PROBLEMS. HE  
FELT THE PROJECTS EFFECTIVELY ANSWERED IMMEDIATE LPDR  
NEEDS AND ADMIRERD THE FLEXIBILITY OF THE TCP CONCEPT.

3. PROVIDING A DIFFERENT VIEW, UNDP OFFICER FEARED  
THE TCP PROGRAM, NO MATTER HOW VALUABLE, WOULD ONLY  
FURTHER FRAGMENT RESPONSIBILITY WHEN OTHER AGENCIES

ALREADY EXISTED TO HANDLE EMERGENCIES AND SHORT-TERM PROJECTS FOR THE LPDR. HE THOUGHT THE UNDP WOULD END UP ABSORBING ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS FOR TCP PROGRAMS WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT OR A SHARE IN PROGRAM DIRECTION. "WHO DO YOU THINK IS GOING TO LOOK AFTER IMPORT VOUCHERS FOR THOSE VEGETABLE SEEDS NOW SITTING IN BANGKOK WAITING TO BE TRANSPORTED UP HERE TO VIENTIANE?...AND WHEN THIS VETERINARIAN NEEDS A DESK AND A MIMEO-MACHINE, THE UNDP WILL END UP PROVIDING THAT ALSO." UNDP OFFICER SAID THERE WOULD BE \$150,000 IN TCP FUNDS FOR 1977 RATHER THAN \$600,000 SITED BY FAO EXPERT, AND HE KNEW OF ONLY TWO PROJECTS.

4. EMBASSY HAS NO REGULAR CONTACTS WITH LAO OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR FOREIGN AID PROJECTS AND THEREFORE DID NOT ASK HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS ABOUT TCP. UNDP OFFICER TOLD EMBOFF, HOWEVER, THAT THE LAO IN 1976 TURNED DOWN AN FAO PROGRAM TO ASSIGN A RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE IN VIENTIANE. HE ADDED THAT THE LAO ARE QUITE HAPPY TO HAVE THE UNDP ACT AS EXECUTIVE AGENT FOR OTHER UN AGENCIES SUCH AS FAO, WFP, UNIDO, ETC. AND WOULD LIKE TO LIMIT PROLIFERATION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN LPDR.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 34398  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** EAID, EAGR, LA, FAO, UNDP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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22 May 2009  
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